

**MINUTES  
MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW  
LANCASTER BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
1<sup>st</sup> CHOICE CREDIT UNION  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2003  
1:00 P.M.**

Commissioners Present: Ray Stevens, Chair  
Larry Hudkins, Vice Chair  
Bernie Heier  
Deb Schorr  
Bob Workman

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer  
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

The Chair reconvened the Mid-Year Budget Review at 12:25 p.m..

**AGENDA ITEM**

**1 MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW**

d. Five-Year Forecast

Kroeker gave an overview of the Five-Year Forecast contained in the *Mid-Year Budget Review* (Exhibit 1):

- ▶ Five Year Forecast - Base Budget - Fiscal Year 2004
- ▶ Five Year Forecast - Projected Reductions Needed
- ▶ Funding Issues Next Five Years
- ▶ Fiscal Year 2005 Projected Tax Increase
- ▶ Calculation of Restricted Funds for Legislative Bill 989
- ▶ Group Insurance Increase for Fiscal Year 2004
- ▶ Seven Year History of General Fund Budget
- ▶ Seven Year History of Tax Requirements
- ▶ History of Payroll Costs and Selected Benefits
- ▶ Change in Consumer price index CPI-U
- ▶ Average Cost of Full Time Employees by Agency

## 5 STRATEGIC BUDGET PLANNING

Kroeker referred to Page 4-3 contained in the Mid-Year Budget Review indicating that the following are issues the Board should be planning for in the next five years:

- ▶ BryanLGH hospital billings for Emergency Protective Custody (EPC)
- ▶ Single point of entry for EPC
- ▶ Purchase of the Community Blood Bank building and increased occupancy costs
- ▶ Loss of State and Federal funding in connection with LB640 and juvenile grants and Adult Drug Court
- ▶ Increase in hours of the Assessment Center to 24 hours per day/seven days per week
- ▶ Community Corrections
- ▶ Funding of Indigent Screener
- ▶ Garage for Sheriff
- ▶ Additional funding for Health Department expansion
- ▶ Relocation of Emergency Management
- ▶ Additional District Court Judge
- ▶ Lancaster Manor
- ▶ New system to replace Oasis
- ▶ City/County Master plan regarding 3<sup>rd</sup> floor remodel
- ▶ Additional funding for a new financial system
- ▶ Additional full-time employees to manage population in Corrections

General discussion took place regarding construction and location of a new jail.

Schorr suggested prioritizing the projects to spread funding over the next several years.

Stevens noted the following as issues/projects to which the County is committed:

- ▶ BryanLGH hospital billings for Emergency Protective Custody (EPC)
- ▶ Single point of entry for EPC
- ▶ Purchase of the Community Blood Bank building and the occupancy costs
- ▶ Loss of funding State and Federal funding in connection with LB640 and juvenile grants and Adult Drug Court
- ▶ Increase in hours of the Assessment Center to 24 hours per day/seven days per week
- ▶ Community Corrections

- g. Department Budget Hearing schedule for Fiscal Year 2004/2005

Kroeker reviewed the budget calendar for Fiscal Year 2004, noting department budget hearings would be held on May 18, May 20, May 27 and June 3, 2004.

Board consensus was to tentatively schedule the public hearing for the County's budget on Tuesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, with adoption tentatively scheduled for August 24, 2004.

Memorandum from Dennis Keefe regarding purchase of palm pilots - Exhibit 2

Discussion took place regarding a memorandum from Dennis Keefe, Lancaster County Public Defender, regarding the purchase of two palm pilots.

Board consensus was to schedule a work session or a staff meeting discussion regarding palm pilots, cell phones and computers.

## **6 ACTION ITEMS**

- a. Safety Flyer for Paychecks (January 29, 2004)

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Heier seconded approval of the distribution of a safety flyer with paychecks on January 29, 2004. Hudkins, Heier, Schorr, Workman and Stevens voted aye. Motion carried.

## **7 DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- a. General Assistance
  1. Move to Veterans Services
  2. Billing Clerk (Full Time)

Stevens suggested they review the issue when more information is provided.

- b. Application and Talent Bank for County Advisory Boards

Stevens reported a County application was drafted for individuals to complete who may be interested in serving on a County committee, advisory board or task force.

c. County Board Training Sessions

Eagan suggested the following topics for work sessions/training sessions:

- ▶ Families First and Foremost/Assessment Center/Board Contracts
- ▶ County Engineer regarding the 7<sup>th</sup> Street bridge over the Interstate, West Bypass, Hickman viaduct plan
- ▶ Overview of Information Services
- ▶ County Board's role on emergencies
- ▶ Planning regulations and Building and Safety regulations
- ▶ Mental health system overview
- ▶ Property Management issues with Don Killeen
- ▶ Region V overview

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Heier seconded to add the following to the agenda:

1. Letter to the State of Nebraska, Department of Roads regarding the West Bypass.
2. Form of County Recognition.

Workman, Hudkins, Heier, Schorr and Stevens voted aye. Motion carried.

Hudkins stated he requested the following language be included in the letter to the State Department of Roads: "We are also concerned with the access to agricultural land east of Highway 77 by our local area farmers."

Following general discussion of the proposed closure of Roca Road, Yankee Hill Road and Old Cheney Road, it was the consensus of the Board to schedule Don Thomas, County Engineer, and John Craig, Director of the State Department of Roads, for a work session regarding the issue.

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Schorr seconded to reconsider sending a letter to the State of Nebraska, Department of Roads regarding the closure of Old Cheney Road at Highway 77. Hudkins, Schorr, Workman and Stevens voted aye. Heier abstained from voting. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Heier seconded to send a letter to the State of Nebraska, Department of Roads regarding the closure of Old Cheney Road at Highway 77 with the requested changes. Hudkins, Heier, Schorr, Workman and Stevens voted aye. Motion carried.

Form of County Recognition

Schorr stated she and Cori Beattie, Administrative Secretary, will be researching different ideas, such as letter openers, plaques and paperweights, and will bring back additional information to the Board.

d. Strategic Planning

Eagan reviewed a list of goals set for the year 2001 and suggested to the Board that they return to setting those goals.

Board consensus to discuss setting goals for 2004 at a work session or at a Thursday staff meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** Heier moved and Stevens seconded adjournment of the Mid-Year Budget Retreat at 3:40 p.m.. Schorr, Heier, Hudkins, Workman and Stevens voted aye. Motion carried.

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Bruce Medcalf  
Lancaster County Clerk